



Long Beach Police Department

Crime Watch News

Crime Prevention Unit . 100 Long Beach Blvd . Long Beach, CA 90802



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COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION MEETING

M-26 TASER LESS LETHAL DEVICE PRESENTATION

Wednesday
March 17, 2004
7:00 p.m.

Long Beach Water Department Headquarters
1800 East Wardlow Road

Join us for an informative evening to learn about one of our tools to deal with uncooperative suspects. Instructors from our Advanced Officer Training Class will be on hand to demonstrate the M-26 Taser, one of our newest less lethal devices.
Don't forget to bring your friends and family!

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Upcoming Events/Volunteer Opportunities

- March 13, 2004, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
2nd Street Police, Fire and Community Center Grand Opening
5373 E. 2nd Street, Long Beach
- March 14, 2004, Sunday, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
St. Baldrick's Day, "Shaving the way to cure childhood cancer"
Tracy's Bar & Grill, 5511 E. Spring Street, Long Beach
Come out and support Police, Fire and Community members as they brave the shears in support of kids with cancer!
For further information visit: www.stbaldricks.org
- March 26, 2004, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Freeman Avenue: Police Athletic League (PAL) Grand Re-opening
1205 Freeman Avenue, Long Beach.
For more information contact Detective David Fritz: 562-570-1663
- April 3, 2004, Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Chief's Women's Advisory Group - Rape Prevention and Self Defense 101
Long Beach City College - PCC, 1305 East Pacific Coast Hwy, Long Beach
For further information contact PSA Chupinghong: 562-570-7091

AWARDS LUNCHEON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION



The Police Department has developed a new opportunity for community partnership. We have established several sponsorship categories to assist us in publicly honoring citizens and police employees who have distinguished themselves by their brave or unselfish acts of heroism.

These individuals are recognized at our Annual Awards Luncheon, which is the largest event that the Long Beach Police Department hosts and is attended by nearly 1,000 supporters each year.

This year's luncheon will be on Tuesday, May 25, 2004, at the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center, Grand Ballroom, 300 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach. There will be a reception at 11:15 a.m., followed by lunch and the awards program at 12:00 p.m.

The Department recognizes the importance of acknowledging the heroes in our community. In order to continue this tradition, we look for your partnership and assistance in the hopes that you or your business will consider one of these opportunities to support this worthwhile event. If you know of an organization who might also be interested in this sponsor-

Closing date for sponsors to be included in the commemorative program is April 16, 2004

ship, please pass along this information.

To obtain an informational brochure or to sign up for a sponsorship, please contact Administrator Karen Owens at (562) 570-7098 or the Community Relations Office at (562) 570-7215.

PUBLIC'S ASSISTANCE REQUESTED IN EAST LONG BEACH ROBBERIES

The Long Beach Police Department's Robbery Detail would like to inform the public of a series of robberies that have occurred East Long Beach area since November of 2003.

In most cases, the victims have driven their vehicle to a driveway or garage. As they exit their vehicle, they are approached by a lone male suspect wearing a hooded sweatshirt and armed with a handgun. The suspect demands money or property such as a purse or wallet and then flees on foot to a nearby waiting vehicle where a second suspect is waiting.

The suspects have targeted male and females victims, both single and coupled. The robberies have occurred between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and the early morning.

We are encouraging you to be more vigilant in your neighborhoods. Call 9-1-1 (or 562-435-6711 if calling from a cell phone) to report any suspicious activities, people or vehicles.

Anyone who might have information such as vehicle descriptions, license plate numbers, or physical descriptions of suspects is asked to call Long Beach Police Department Robbery Detective Don Collier at (562) 570-7465.

Consider the following tips to reduce your chances of becoming a victim:

- Program our seven digit emergency number, 562-435-6711 into your cellular phone. Dialing 9-1-1 from a cellular phone will connect you to the California Highway Patrol and not our emergency dispatch.
- Vary your route when traveling home, and be aware of your surroundings at all times

- If you suspect someone is following you, do not drive to your home. Drive to a well-populated, well-lit area, or to the nearest police station. Your horn can be used to draw attention to yourself which may deter the follower
- If you park in your driveway, be sure it is well lit, and that shrubbery is trimmed so that it does not offer concealment for an intruder
- Report all suspicious people and vehicles, including people loitering, or sitting in parked vehicles for long periods of time
- If you do not know your neighbors, call, 570-7229 to start a Neighborhood Watch on your block. By getting to know your neighbors, you will know who belongs on your block and who doesn't!
- Do not attempt to contact these suspects!

Robbery suspect sketches



LONG BEACH POLICE

EXPLORERS

Begin your future today!

Seven Long Beach Police Department Explorer Recruits graduated from the 2004 Orange County Law Enforcement Explorers Advisors Association, Winter Explorer Academy, in Riverside, California.

The Academy was held at the Riverside County Sheriff's Ben Clark Training Facility where Explorer Recruits received instruction in report writing, physical fitness, special weapons and tactics, traffic control, high risk stops, crime scene investigations, patrol procedures and canine investigations.

The Police Explorer program is designed for youths between the

POLICE EXPLORERS GRADUATE FROM EXPLORER ACADEMY!

OUR NEWEST EXPLORER POST MEMBERS:

- EXPLORER CHRIS DAVIS
- EXPLORER LYNSEY DENNISON
- EXPLORER FERNANDO FLORES-CHAVEZ
- EXPLORER YESENIA FRAGOZA
- EXPLORER VERONICA HEREDIA
- EXPLORER LISA PHAM
- EXPLORER LINDA RANGEL

CONGRATULATIONS!

ages 14-20 who have an interest in law enforcement. Explorers participate in ride-a-longs, classroom instruction, competitions, safety fairs, field trips and more.

Anyone interested in becoming a Long Beach Police Explorer, please contact Detective Rodney Tamparong at (562) 570-8597.

Graffiti

Removal and prevention

what is graffiti?

Graffiti comes in many forms. It can be a person's name or "tag," group or gang name or any combination of written words or symbols. Spray-paint, markers, stickers, glass etchers and acid are some of the ways taggers vandalize property.

why is graffiti harmful?

- It reduces the value of properties
- It diminishes the quality of life
- It lowers community pride
- It is costly to remove or repair
- It paves the way for more serious crime and neighborhood blight

Erase the problem!

- Remove graffiti immediately. When graffiti is ignored or not removed in a timely manor, it encourages taggers to continue defacing your property. The sooner you cover the tagging, the sooner it stops
- Form a Graffiti Watch within your neighborhood. Partner with community members and business neighbors to keep a watch on your neighborhood
- Use anti-graffiti coatings on your property for easier removal of graffiti
- Use plants such as bougainvillea or creeping ivy to cover property areas such as block walls that may be tempting to graffiti vandals
- Keep your property well lit. Taggers love to work in darkness. Motion-sensor lights are often good deterrents in problem areas
- Use cameras to aid in the apprehension of taggers
- Keep a written log of graffiti incidents and take photos of chronic graffiti problems
- Move any large vans, cars, garbage cans, or other items that can be used to gain access to the roof
- **NEVER confront a tagger!** Many taggers may be armed with weapons. Be a good witness and call 911. Provide the police with a detailed description of the person(s) responsible.

Graffiti Removal Hotline

For graffiti on a Long Beach property, contact the Graffiti Hotline at (562) 570-2773.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SUCCESS STORIES

Auto Theft Prevention and Reduction Program

Please share your own Neighborhood Watch Success Story by sending an article to the Community Relations Division, or e-mail it to Lisa_Massacani@longbeach.gov.

This month's article has lots of potential to be a Success Story With the *REDUCTION* of *AUTO THEFT* in Beat 11

**Join the Long Beach Police Department in the fight against auto theft
—and get a free steering wheel lock!**

Auto theft is a crime that affects not only victims, but also raises insurance rates for all insured motorists. Auto theft is on the rise throughout Long Beach, and to combat this growing crime, the Long Beach Police Department, in conjunction with the Neighborhood Services Bureau, introduces the ***Auto Theft Prevention and Reduction Program***. This program is designed to educate the public on preventing auto theft and will provide residents of the target area with free steering wheel locks. By being proactive, the community is able to fight autos theft the most effective way—before they occur!

The Police Department has identified Beat 11 as the target area where the majority of the city's auto thefts have been reported. Beat 11 is bound by Pacific Coast Highway to 7th Street, and Cherry Avenue to Redondo Avenue. To qualify for the free lock, you must be a vehicle owner, and live within Beat 11. The department plans on expanding the program to residents outside this target area in the future.

To participate in this program, please contact Police Services Assistant Kym Cloughesy of East Division Community Policing at (562) 570-5808.

A vehicle is stolen every 25 seconds...*don't let yours be next!!*



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